

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/705,533

Examiner

Michael A. Marcheschi

Applicant(s)

PRASAD, ABANESHWAR

Art Unit

1755

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/28/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,6-8 and 13.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Michael A. Marcheschi
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1755

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The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claimed invention is novel over the cited references because said references fail to teach or suggest a polishing pad, wherein the polishing pad has a polishing surface and is in the form of micropellets of a biodegradable polymer (specific ones) dispersed in a non biodegradable polymer resin.

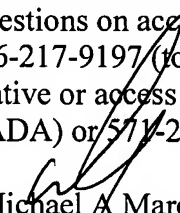
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael A. Marcheschi whose telephone number is (571) 272-1374. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo can be reached on (571) 272-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MM
5/11/07


Michael A. Marcheschi
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1755

OK to Enter
MM

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

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1. (currently amended) A polishing pad for use in chemical-mechanical polishing comprising a biodegradable polymer, wherein the biodegradable polymer comprises (a) a repeat unit selected from the group consisting of L-lactic acid, D-lactic acid, or a combination thereof; or (b) a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyglycolide, polycaprolactone, poly(dioxanone), poly(trimethylene carbonate), polyglyconate, polyhydroxybutyrate, polyhydroxyvalerate, poly(1,4-butylene succinate), poly(1,4-butylene adipate), polyanhydrides, polyorthoesters, DL-poly lactide, D-poly lactide, L-poly lactide, poly(DL-lactide-co-glycolide), poly(ethylene glycol-co-lactide), poly(L-lactide-co-caprolactone-co-glycolide), and combinations thereof[,,]; and wherein the polishing pad has a polishing surface and is in the form of micropellets of the biodegradable polymer dispersed in a non-biodegradable polymer resin.
2. (canceled)
3. (original) The polishing pad of claim 1, wherein the biodegradable polymer is cross-linked.
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (original) The polishing pad of claim 1, wherein the polishing pad further comprises abrasive particles.
7. (original) The polishing pad of claim 6, wherein the abrasive particles are selected from metal oxide particles, boron nitride particles, diamond particles, ceramic particles, and combinations thereof.

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8. (original) The polishing pad of claim 6, wherein the abrasive particles are disposed on a polishing surface of the polishing pad or are dispersed throughout the body of the polishing pad.

9.-12. (canceled)

13. (previously presented) The polishing pad of claim 1, wherein the non-biodegradable polymer resin is selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic elastomers, thermoplastic polyurethanes, thermoplastic polyolefins, polycarbonates, polyvinylalcohols, nylons, elastomeric rubbers, elastomeric polyethylenes, polytetrafluoroethylenes, polyethyleneterephthalates, polyimides, polyaramides, polyarylenes, polystyrenes, polymethylmethacrylic acids, polyethylene oxides, rubbers, copolymers thereof, and mixtures thereof.

14. (canceled)

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)

22. (canceled)

23. (canceled)

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24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)

26. (canceled)

27. (canceled)